

U.S. Application Serial No. 09/108,463

### REMARKS

As noted above, the present amendment corrects an inconsistency between a dependent claim and the corresponding independent claim from which it depends, where the inconsistency was introduced as part of a previously submitted broadening amendment of the independent claim. The present amendment is being made to correct the inconsistency, and to insure that the proper antecedent basis is maintained. The present amendment does not raise any new issues, which would necessitate a further search, and is believed to place the application in better condition for appeal. The inconsistency was only recently discovered during preparation of the appeal brief. As a result, the amendment was not previously presented.

Nevertheless, the claims, as presently amended, are believed to be allowable over the prior art of record, for previously presented reasons, and the reasons contained in the appeal-brief filed herewith. Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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